



## FIRE DEPARTMENT OF THE CITY OF CHICAGO

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Bureau Fire Suppression Bureau

August

Company Unit Duty District 1st

Address 22 W. Illinois

26 AUG 1985 08 08

CHICAGO FIRE DEPARTMENT

TO : Deputy Commissioner Gallorey

FROM : Richard J. Battaglia,  
1st District, Chief

SUBJECT: RASHAI Cr. Ident/122nd Street & Grove Smoke

SIR:

I responded to an incident on August 26 at 1811 hours to 122nd street and ~~George~~ Grove. On site upon my arrival were; 3-2-0 Webster; Battalion 22 Nisavac; and 4-8-7 Keiley. I conversed with the above parties and with members of the U.S.E.P.A. Super Wu and members of Weston/Sper and Mid American cleanup companies.

The Chicago Fire Department was requested to use foam to try to seal the ground opening that were emitting smoke. After the foam being applied the cleanup company would then apply clay on top of the foam.

I called the JAD center and asked them to contact the Duty Deputy Commissioner and request permission to use foam for this purpose. Chief Brichetto granted this permission and the companies necessary were then requested thru the JAD center.

I then questioned Mr. Wu, as to the toxicity level that was being found by his monitors. He stated that all levels were very low and were only being found in the smoke as it came out of the ground. I was assured that all other areas were safe. Mr. Wu was also requested to sign a form that the E.P.A. would compensate the Chicago Fire Department for the cost of the foam used.

An area was then marked beyond which Fire Department personnel would not enter without full protective clothing and self contained breathing equipment. This was just a precautionary measure to protect Chicago fire department personnel. foam was then applied until this operation terminate at midnight.





# FIRE DEPARTMENT OF THE CITY OF CHICAGO

Bureau \_\_\_\_\_

Company/Unit \_\_\_\_\_

ADDRESS

TO

FROM

SUBJECT : BASIC AND OTHER AREA

The operation was terminated for two reasons:

1. It was very difficult to observe the overall operation.
2. It appeared that the use of foam was not achieving the expected effect.

On Sat. Aug. 17, I was again contacted by the 22nd Battalion and was requested to return to the site at 122nd and Cottage Grove. I spoke to Mr. Wu and was again requested to provide protective lines while the S.P.A. opened the site in an area so they could see what was buried underground.

I contacted the duty Deputy Commissioner Altman and again requested permission. This permission was granted and the necessary personnel and equipment was called. The difference in the second day operation was that only water was used. This operation continued till noon and then terminated.

The following is information regarding the site and the toxicity levels found while the Chicago Fire Department was operating. You will find attached a complete breakdown of all readings. You will notice that at no time was any person who worked in the area exposed to dangerous level of toxicity.

The hose leadout consisted of approximately one and one-eighth mile of 5, 4, and 3 inch hose. This was needed to reach the most remote area.

The engine was able to supply 40 P.S.I. of pressure to 6-3-3 at the most remote area. The running engine was on a hydrant at 150 ft. and a garter.

3 - 50 gallon cans of foam was used by 6-3-3.  
4 - 50 gallon cans and 7 - 5 gallon cans of foam was used by 6-3-8.



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**FIRE DEPARTMENT OF THE CITY OF CHICAGO**

Bureau \_\_\_\_\_

Company Unit \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

TO \_\_\_\_\_

FROM \_\_\_\_\_

**SUBJECT : RADIAL Incident (case #)**

4. The chemical readings that were found at the site at low level toxicity were:
  - a. Hydrogen cyanide
  - b. Hydrogen chloride
  - c. Nitric oxides
  - d. Mercaptans
  - e. Hydrogen sulfide
5. Where an particular area was designated as a hot area by the I.P.A., all firefighters personnel wore protective clothing and self-contained breathing equipment as a safety precaution.
6. At no time were hose lines in the contaminated area.
7. The companies personnel time committed to this incident is all substantiated by documents attached to this report.
8. The need to decontaminate personnel or equipment was not required at this incident.

Conclusion:

1. I would suggest the Chicago Fire Department provide disposable HAZMAT suits for use in this type situations. These suits could be stored on the first responders or at least in Battalion Chief's buggies. This is especially required in the 6th district where there is a large amount of disposal sites.
2. This particular incident should be monitored by the Chicago Fire Department until such time as the site is declared clear.



# FIRE DEPARTMENT OF THE CITY OF CHICAGO

Bureau

Company Unit

Address

TO

FROM:

SUBJECT: Gasoline Spill - Valte 41

I strongly suggest that if the fire department chooses respond to a recurrence at this site, that a monitor nozzle be used from as far away as possible. It should also be brought to the attention of responding units; that they should take a position when leaving out - up wind from the affected area.

For any further information; please contact me.

Sincerely,

Richard J. Fitzpatrick  
Chief, 1st District.

